

# Social Studies Update

## Highlights:

- [Iowa Core in Social Studies to be Rewritten in 2016](#)
- [Social Studies Report](#)
- [Social Studies News](#)
- [Social Studies Resources](#)
- [Social Studies Awards, Grants, and Competitions](#)
- [Professional Development Opportunities](#)

## Check Out:

- [The C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards](#)
- [Social Studies Google Calendar](#)
- [Iowa Social Studies on Twitter](#)
- [Iowa Social Studies on Pinterest](#)
- [Iowa Social Studies on Diigo](#)
- [Iowa Department of Education Social Studies Page](#)
- [Iowa Core](#)

## Questions?

Contact Stefanie Wager, social studies consultant at the Iowa Department of Education, at [stefanie.wager@iowa.gov](mailto:stefanie.wager@iowa.gov) or 515-725-7842

## Iowa Core in Social Studies To Be Rewritten in 2016

The Iowa Department of Education is forming a Social Studies Standards Writing Team to rewrite our state's academic standards in social studies. This team will meet monthly throughout the spring of 2016 to rewrite the standards.

A separate review team will then be established to review the standards and public input will be sought about the standards through public forums and a survey. This

is in line with Governor's Branstad's Executive Order 83.

Director Ryan Wise recently said the following, "Statewide academic standards are important because they reflect the knowledge and skills that all students need to graduate from high school prepared for college and career training, Iowa has set clear and consistent state standards for mathematics, English-language arts, sci-

ence and 21st century skills that will be revisited on an ongoing basis. Our social studies standards, however, have a lot of room for growth and improvement. This is why a rewrite of these standards is a good next step."

See the full press release [here](#).

## Department of Education Releases Report on the Status of Social Studies in Iowa

The University of Northern's Iowa Center for Social and Behavioral research recently conducted a study for the Iowa Department of Education on the status of social studies in the state. This report looked at four main areas:

- Teacher knowledge of standards and curriculum
- Current instructional

practices in classrooms

- Professional development in social studies
- Needs identified by teachers to strengthen social studies across the state.

Some interesting points from the data:

- Only 12% of elementary teachers reported access to any social

studies professional development.

- 80% of high school teachers reported their curriculum was aligned or somewhat aligned to the Iowa Core, while only 42% of elementary teachers reported this.

See the full report [here](#).

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## Social Studies News

### Charles City Students Building Sod House

Students in Charles City are getting the real life experience of pioneer life through building a sod house. Check out the full story [here](#).

### Eric Foner Explains How the Underground Railroad Really Worked

Check out Eric Foner's article, based off his book Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad, [here](#).

### No Child Left Behind Act Becomes Every Student Succeeds Act

President Barack Obama signed the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) into law on December 10, 2015. Previously dubbed the No Child Left Behind Act, it is now the Every Student Succeeds Act. The new law has implications for social studies in that it contains competitive grant programs for social studies funding. Stay tuned for more news on this!

## Social Studies Resources

### Campaign 2016 Resources

C-SPAN has hundreds of dedicated resources around the 2016 Election. These resources include videos about the candidates themselves, current issues, political parties, the election process, electoral college, campaign ads, polls, debates, voting, and more. Check it out [here](#).

### The True Size

The True Size allows you to enter any country in the world and see a visual representation of the country's "true size." Check it out at <http://thetruesize.com/>.

### Agriculture Books with a Social Studies Connection


The Iowa Ag Literacy Foundation has released a short video discussing the social studies connections with various works of children's literature. Check it out [here](#).

### Stossel in the Classroom

Stossel in the Classroom is offering a new 2016 DVD FREE of charge. Check out <http://stosselintheclassroom.org/freedvd> to order the DVD.

### Caucus 101 Curriculum

The Secretary of State's office has released their curriculum related to the Iowa caucuses. Called Caucus 101, the curriculum includes various options for teachers depending on how much time they have to teach the caucus process. Check it out at [www.caucus101.com](http://www.caucus101.com). The site also contains video clips from each presidential candidate to Iowa students. Check those out [here](#). Check out a news story from Radio Iowa about it [here](#). If you conduct the mock caucus found in the Caucus 101 curriculum please report your results [here](#). You can also make your voice heard through social media [here](#). Finally, students can ask candidates questions and upload their question to Instagram or YouTube. Check that out [here](#).



*"You learn about  
equality in history  
and civics, but you  
find out life is not  
really like that."  
-Arthur Ashe*

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## Social Studies Resources (*Continued*)

### Request Your Free Calendar from the US Holocaust Memorial Museum

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is offering their 2016 calendar, Personalizing History, for free. Request your free calendar [here](#).

### Teaching AP US History?

Do you teach AP US History? If so, check out Gilder Lehrman's AP US History Study Guide. The site includes video overviews for each historical period as well as background information and other study hints. Check it out <http://ap.gilderlehrman.org/>.

### Teaching the Holocaust

Echoes and Reflections has released a list of ten approaches to keep in mind when teaching the Holocaust. You can access the list [here](#).

### HSTRY

Want to create free, interactive timelines? Check out HSTRY at <http://hstry.co>. You can also request to connect with HSTRY via webinar or on-site workshop [here](#).

### 5 Alternatives to Think-Pair-Share

Looking for some new teaching strategies? Check out these 5 alternatives to think/pair/share [here](#).

### Play Fantasy SCOTUS

Have you ever wanted students to experience what it's like to serve on the Supreme Court? If so, check out Fantasy SCOTUS. It allows students to learn about Supreme Court cases, make predictions, and write analytical posts about cases. Check it out [here](#).

### Newseum Launches Newseum ED

The Newseum has launched a series of learning tools on media literacy and the 1st Amendment. Check it out [here](#).

### Academic Word Finder


Achieve the Core includes a resource called the Academic Word Finder. This resource allows you to paste text and the tool finds the high value words within the text for you. Check it out at <http://achievethecore.org/academic-word-finder/>.

### Constitutional Rights Foundation

The Constitutional Rights Foundation has launched a blog entitled, "Unleashing the Power and Potential of Common Core for History/Social Studies. On it are several resources, lesson plans, and recorded webinars. Check it out [here](#).

### Digital Public Library of America

The Digital Public Library of America has recently created a series of primary source sets that connect to the thousands of resources they have in their repository. Check out the sets [here](#). Check out a recorded webinar about how to use the sets [here](#).



*"Presidents come and go, but the Supreme Court goes on forever."*

-William Howard Taft

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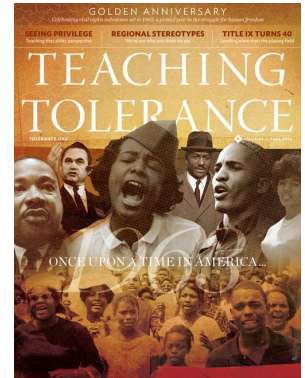
## Social Studies Resources (*continued*)

### Bringing History Home

Are you an elementary teacher? If so, check out Bringing History Home. It includes K-5 social studies curriculum and resources about the best practices in implementing the curriculum. Check it out at <http://www.bringinghistoryhome.org/>.

### Teaching Tolerance Magazine

Are you an educator who is interested in social justice and anti-bias education? If so, you can subscribe to Teaching Tolerance. This is the quarterly publication of the Southern Poverty Law Center and it's entirely FREE to subscribe. Go [here](#) to subscribe.



### First Light Project

Go to <http://upstanderproject.org/iafirstlight> for a chance to win a copy of the new film First Light. For centuries, the United States government has taken Native American children away from their tribes, devastating parents and denying children their traditions, culture, and identity. First Light documents these practices from the 1800s to today, and tells the story of an unprecedented experiment in truth-telling and healing for Wabanaki people and child welfare workers in Maine.

### RACE: Are We So Different?

The Science Center of Iowa is hosting a special exhibit from now until April 3, 2016 entitled, Race: Are We So Different? They are also hosting several forums during the exhibit time related to historical perspectives on race and Iowa's history and perspectives on race. Check out more information about the exhibit and forums [here](#).

### Voices of History

The Bill of Rights Institute offers a resource called Voices of History. The resource is a digital hub of lesson plans and videos. Check it out [here](#).

### Teaching with Primary Sources

Check out Richard Byrne's blog post entitled "10 Resources for Teaching with Primary Sources" [here](#).

### American Battle Monuments Commission Launches Education Website

The American Battle Monuments Commission has launched a new education website dedicated to share the history of our fallen heroes. Check out the website [here](#).



### Do You Teach about Canada?

If you teach about Canada, you might check out K-12 Study Canada. The site contains information on lessons and professional development opportunities related to the teaching of Canada. Go to <http://www.k12studycanada.org/>

### Quick Writes to Assess Historical Thinking

Check out Glenn Wiebe's latest post about how to use Quick Writes to assess historical thinking [here](#). The post include several resources from author Bruce Lesh.

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## Social Studies Resources (*continued*)

### Free Civics Engagement Program

The Student Governmental Affairs Program (SGAP) is a nonprofit organization providing nonpartisan educational information about the U.S. government to students across the nation. Its goal is to help them understand how their government works, to be informed about legislative efforts in Congress and to realize the impact decisions made in Washington, D.C., have on them and their families. Each month during the school year, your students will receive the SGAP newsletter that highlights issues being debated in Congress. Also included is an opinion ballot to send to your elected officials so the student voice is heard in D.C. This program is free to teachers and is a great resource for classroom discussion and debate. Simply [click here](#) to enroll and check the NCSS Conference Referral box. To see an example of the bipartisan newsletter, [click here](#). For questions, send an email to [brittany.collichio@nwy.com](mailto:brittany.collichio@nwy.com).

## Social Studies Awards, Grants, and Competitions

### State Department Scholarships for Studying Abroad

Do you have a student interested in studying abroad? There are several scholarships available for these opportunities. Check out <http://www.exchanges.state.gov/> for more information.

### Abdelkader Essay Contest

Elkader, Iowa was named after Amir Abdelkader, a Muslim hero from Algeria. The Abdelkader Project is sponsoring an essay contest related to his legacy. Go to <http://www.abdelkaderproject.org/essay-contest/> for more information.

### MLK Call 2 Serve Contest

How would you demonstrate courage, justice, compassion, humility, or service in your school or community? That is the question students should wrestle with for this year's MLK Call 2 Serve contest. Students can submit written pieces, artwork, photography or a video to participate and the contest is open to first through eighth grade students. The deadline to submit is December 31st. Winners will be announced on Monday, January 18th at the State of Iowa Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration in Des Moines. Questions? Contact [dlr.icsaa@iowa.gov](mailto:dlr.icsaa@iowa.gov). Check out the following for more information:

- [Brochure](#)
- [Contest Cover Sheet](#)
- [School Superintendent Letter](#)
- [Waiver Release](#)
- [Copyright Transfer](#)



Source: [www.biography.com](http://www.biography.com)

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# Professional Development Opportunities

## Statewide Social Studies Professional Development Coming to an AEA Near You

Each AEA will be offering the statewide social studies professional development around building literacy in social studies during the 2015-2016 school year. Check out our Google calendar [here](#) to view the dates of the training in your AEA.

## Choices Program Workshop

The Choices Program out of Brown University is holding a one-day workshop at the University of Iowa on March 4, 2016. Entitled "Engaging Students in International Issues: The Choices Approach, participants will be introduced to the Choices approach and get a chance to dive into Choices units. The cost is \$145 per person but this includes two units, lunch, and materials. See a flyer [here](#). Email [mimi\\_stephens@brown.edu](mailto:mimi_stephens@brown.edu) with questions.

## World War II Museum Digital Resources

Curious about the digital resources the World War II Museum offers? Check out a recent webinar by their education staff on how to access and use their resources in your classroom. Go [here](#) to view the recorded webinar.

## Global Exploration for Educators

Interested in traveling abroad with other educators? Interested in earning professional development credit while doing so? Check out GEEQ's website [here](#).

## Generation Study Abroad

This program recognizes U.S. secondary level teachers who have shown to be outstanding advocates for study abroad and is a professional development opportunity for those teachers who have taken innovative actions in preparing students for global citizenship. 50 enrichment grants of \$1,000 are available. Check it out [here](#).

## Global Competence Certificate

Interested in earning a certificate in global competence? The certificate program in global competence is accepting applications through December 13, 2015 for a January 2016 cohort. Go to <http://globalcompetencecertificate.org/> for more information.

## Bill of Rights Institute Founders Fellowship

The Bill of Rights Institute is offering a two week-long summer institutes around principles of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Go [here](#) for more information.

## Gilder Lehrman Summer Seminars

The Gilder Lehrman Institute offers over 50 summer institutes on various topics in American History. Each seminar is free and Gilder Lehrman offers a stipend to cover travel costs. For more information and to apply go [here](#).

## The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Teacher Fellowship Program

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Teacher Fellowship Program offers you the chance to become part of the Museum's corps of skilled teachers who serve as leaders in Holocaust education. Twenty educators will be selected to participate in this five-day program on July 17-21, 2016. Go [here](#) for more information and [here](#) to apply. All expenses are paid as part of the program.

*"We owe the World War II veterans— and all our veterans— a debt we can never fully repay."*

-Doc Hastings



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## Professional Development Opportunities (*continued*)

### University of Iowa Global Scholars Certificate Program

Globalization has changed what citizens need to know and be able to do by interrupting assumptions that the actions of citizens only take place within national borders. In response, educators are rethinking what students need to learn and be able to do as members of an interdependent world. Currently, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Illinois, and Georgia offer students an opportunity to earn a [Global Scholars Certificate](#) upon graduation, and in partnership with the Stanley Foundation and the Longview Foundation, we are working to bring that same opportunity to students in Iowa.

Teachers who complete a workshop series--sessions are scheduled for February 6, March 5, and April 2--and a curriculum project requirement, will earn:

- 2 license renewal credits
- A \$100 stipend to purchase classroom materials to advance global education
- A Global Educator Certificate
- Opportunity for travel abroad

Interested teachers are encouraged to speak with colleagues in all content areas at their school about attending together (imagine what \$300 or \$400 could support at your respective school?). Costs for mileage, meals, and credits will be covered. Enrollment is limited to 20 teachers. Please contact Dr. Jason Harshman at the University of Iowa ([jason-harshman@uiowa.edu](mailto:jason-harshman@uiowa.edu)) if you have any questions and to receive a registration form.

### Iowa History Connections Workshop

Join social studies teachers from across the state on February 13-14, 2016 at the Main Library on the University of Iowa campus for the 2nd Iowa History Connections workshop. This two-day workshop will provide participants with professional development on using digital archives to infuse Iowa's multicultural history into their curriculum. Sessions are designed for K-12 teachers and will be led by experts on Iowa history, digital archives, digital humanities, and multicultural education. Time to work with resources and develop curriculum will be provided. Attendees can earn 1 license renewal credit. Costs for meals and credits will be covered, and lodging is available upon request. Go to [Iowa History Connections](#) to register.

### NEH Summer Institutes

The National Endowment for the Humanities is offering several summer institutes for K-12 teachers and college/university faculty. You can access a list of all of the institutes [here](#). Some examples include:

- **Graffiti Houses: The Civil War from the Perspective of Individual Soldiers** This will be offered in two sessions: Session 1: June 26-July 1, 2016, and Session 2: July 31-August 5, 2016. Explore the Civil War through the lives of soldiers who left their mark in Northern Virginia landmarks now known as "Civil War Graffiti Houses." For more information visit <http://graffitisoldiers.org/>.
- **The Dutch Republic and Britain: The Making of a World Economy and Modern Society** This will be offered by Gerard M. Koot, Professor of History, at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth from June 26 to July 29, 2016. NEH will provide a \$3,900 stipend for expenses. The application deadline is March 1, 2016. For more information, see <http://www1.umassd.edu/euro/> or write [gkoot@umassd.edu](mailto:gkoot@umassd.edu)
- **Rethinking the Gilded Age and Progressivisms: Race, Capitalism, and Democracy, 1877 to 1920** This will be offered June 26 to July 22, 2016. Participants in this National Endowment for the Humanities-sponsored program will spend four weeks in Chicago, a center of Progressive Era reform, engaging in vigorous discussions about this critical time period in American history and creating materials to use in their classrooms. Award-winning historian Robert Johnston (University of Illinois at Chicago) will guide the institute's academic content, with the help of renowned experts in history, art, and architecture. Charles Tocci (Loyola University Chicago) will direct teaching application discussions, along with master teacher Michael Biondo (Maine South High School). For more information, contact Rachel Allmen, CMHEC, [rallmen@chicagohistoryfair.org](mailto:rallmen@chicagohistoryfair.org).

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# Professional Development Opportunities (*continued*)

## Presidential Primary Sources Project

The Presidential Primary Sources Project is a joint venture between the National Park Service, U.S. Presidential Libraries and Museums, and other partners. The project offers several webinars related to connecting students and teachers to the materials offered at these institutions. Check out more information [here](#) and [here](#).

## Holocaust Survivor Marion Blumenthal Lazan Coming to Iowa

Holocaust survivor Marion Blumenthal Lazan, author of *Four Perfect Pebbles* is coming to Iowa. On Monday February 8th she will speak at the Great Hall in the Memorial Union at Iowa State University at 7 pm. On February 9th she will speak in the Sussman Theater in the Olmstead Center at Drake University at 7 pm. Learn more about Marion Blumenthal Lazan by going [here](#).

## 24 Teacher Travel Opportunities

Did you know there are several organizations that allow teachers to travel for free or super cheap? Check out a list of 24 possibilities [here](#).

## National Consortium for Teaching about Asia

- **NCTA Book Group: *Reading the Mao Years: Stories by Feng Jicai and Liao Yiwu*, January 10-March 19, 2016.** Feng Jicai and Liao Yiwu are internationally recognized for their writing on the Mao years. This book group will examine compelling stories by these authors that portray or recall the Mao period. Participants receive a readings packet and completion award. <http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/ncta/downloads/MaoLitFlyer.pdf>
- **NCTA National Online Seminar: *Teaching about Pre-Modern Japan*, January 10-March 19, 2016.** This 20-hour course provides an introduction to Japan's pre-modern era – the Heian period of “peace and calm” (794-1185 CE) and the medieval period of warfare (1185-1600 CE). Participants receive a readings packet and completion award. <http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/ncta/downloads/PreModJFlyer.pdf>
- **NCTA Book Group: *Becoming Modern: Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Japan in Literature*, January 16-March 18, 2016.** This book group will consider short stories and memoir that capture the decades leading up to the Pacific War. Materials and completion award provided. <http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/ncta/downloads/20thcLitFlyer.pdf>
- **NCTA National Online Seminar: *Teaching about China's Political System*, January 25–May 2, 2016.** Co-developed by political scientists with expertise on China in consultation with AP Comparative Government teachers, this 25-hour NCTA seminar addresses instructional objectives of the AP Comparative Government course and provides essential background to all teachers who cover contemporary China in their courses. Materials and completion award provided. [http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/ncta/downloads/China\\_Govt\\_Flyer\\_Winter-Spring\\_2016.pdf](http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/ncta/downloads/China_Govt_Flyer_Winter-Spring_2016.pdf)
- **NCTA National Online Seminar: *Korea in the Modern World*, January 28 – April 13, 2016.** In this 20-hour course, participating teachers will examine primary and secondary sources to consider global themes of imperialism and independence, political-economic and nationalist ideologies, and globalization related to the development of the Koreas, 1895 to the present. Materials and completion award provided. <http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/ncta/downloads/KoreaWS2016flyer.pdf>

